

What is claimed is:

1. A computer implemented method for detecting pixel stutter of a scanner comprising:

5           obtaining data representing a plurality of pixels using said scanner;  
          obtaining a measurement of pixel stutter in said image;  
          obtaining a statistical distribution of pixel stutter; and  
          determining whether said measurement is above what is expected from said  
statistical distribution.

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2. The method of Claim 1 wherein said measurement of pixel stutter is time correlated.

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3. The method of Claim 2 wherein said image has a plurality of rows and columns of  
pixels, wherein said scanner obtains said image row by row and wherein said  
measurement of pixel stutter is row stuttered pixel count.

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4. The method of Claim 3 wherein said statistical distribution of pixel stutter is a  
measurement of non-time correlated pixel stutter in said image.

5. The method of Claim 4 wherein said statistical distribution is measured by column  
stuttered pixel count.

6. The method of Claim 5 wherein said determining comprises comparing row  
stuttered pixel count and column stuttered pixel count.
- 5 7. The method of Claim 6 wherein said comparing comprises calculating a ratio of  
said two counts.
8. The method of Claim 6 wherein said comparing comprises determining whether  
there is a statistical difference between said row and said column stuttered pixel  
10 counts.
9. The method of Claim 8 further comprising displaying stuttered pixels overlaid on  
said image.
- 15 ~~10.~~ A computer software product for detecting pixel stutter of a scanner comprising:  
computer program code for obtaining data representing a plurality of pixels  
using said scanner;  
computer program code for obtaining a measurement of pixel stutter in said  
image;  
20 computer program code for obtaining a statistical distribution of pixel stutter;  
computer program code for determining whether said measurement is above  
what is expected from said statistical distribution; and

a computer readable media for storing said codes.

11. The computer software product of Claim 10 wherein said measurement of pixel stutter is time correlated.

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12. The computer software product of Claim 11 wherein said image has a plurality of rows and columns of pixels, wherein said scanner obtains said image row by row and wherein said measurement of pixel stutter is row stuttered pixel count.

10 13. The computer software product of Claim 12 wherein said statistical distribution of pixel stutter is a measurement of non-time correlated pixel stutter in said image.

14. The computer software product of Claim 4 wherein said statistical distribution is measured by column stuttered pixel count. ,

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15. The computer software product of Claim 5 wherein said determining comprises comparing row stuttered pixel count and column stuttered pixel count.

16. The computer software product of Claim 6 wherein said code for comparing  
20 comprises computer program code for calculating a ratio of said two counts.

17. The computer software product of Claim 6 wherein said code for comparing

comprises computer program code for determining whether there is a statistical difference between said row and said column stuttered pixel counts.

18. The computer software product of Claim 8 further comprising computer program  
5 code for displaying stuttered pixels overlaid on said image.

19. A system for detecting pixel stutter of a scanner comprising:

a processor; and

10 a memory coupled to the processor, the memory capable of storing a plurality  
machine instructions that cause the processor to perform a plurality of logical  
steps when implemented by the processor, said logical steps including:

obtaining data representing a plurality of pixels using said scanner;

obtaining a measurement of pixel stutter in said image;

obtaining a statistical distribution of pixel stutter; and

15 determining whether said measurement is above what is expected from said  
statistical distribution.

20. The system of Claim 19 wherein said measurement of pixel stutter is time  
correlated.

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21. The system of Claim 20 wherein said image has a plurality of rows and columns  
of pixels, wherein said scanner obtains said image row by row and wherein said

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measurement of pixel stutter is row stuttered pixel count.

22. The system of Claim 21 wherein said statistical distribution of pixel stutter is a measurement of non-time correlated pixel stutter in said image.

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23. The system of Claim 22 wherein said statistical distribution is measured by column stuttered pixel count.

24. The system of Claim 23 wherein said determining comprises comparing row  
10 stuttered pixel count and column stuttered pixel count.

25. The system of Claim 24 wherein said comparing comprises calculating a ratio of said two counts.

15 26. The system of Claim 25 wherein said comparing comprises determining whether there is a statistical difference between said row and said column stuttered pixel counts.

20 27. The system of Claim 26 wherein said logic step further comprises displaying stuttered pixels overlaid on said image.